

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 06481 091302Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 SAA-01 SES-02 IO-13 NEAE-00 /064 W
-----012624 091307Z /47

O 091250Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7194
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 06481

JIDDA FOR AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, XF, JO
SUBJ: JORDANIAN PRESS REACTION TO SUMMIT AND VANCE VISIT

1. IN AUGUST 9 EDITORIAL AD-DUSTOUR SPECULATES THAT
PRESIDENT CARTER FOR REASONS OF PRESTIGE WOULD NOT HAVE
VENTURED TO INVITE PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN
FOR SUMMIT "UNLESS HE HAS SOMETHING IN STORE THAT CONVINCES
HIM A SUCCESS WILL BE ACHIEVED".

2. BOTH AL-AKHBAR AND AR-RAYY SKEPTICAL OF SUMMIT. AL-
AKHBAR SAYING THAT "SUMMIT WON'T BE FRUITFUL UNLESS THE
ISRAELIS FIRST ANNOUNCE THEY ABIDE BY THE UN RESOLUTION."
AR-RAYY BELIEVES THAT, CONTRARY TO WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S
COMMENTS, THIS SUMMIT WILL LEAD TO OTHERS "AND EVERYONE
WILL END UP WITH NO DECISIVE OUTCOME. WE ASKED EGYPT TO
CEASE ITS ROTATION IN THE WHIRLPOOL OF ISRAELI MANEUVERS
AND NOT TO RESPOND TO THE U.S. NEGOTIATION METHODS WHICH
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PAGE 02 AMMAN 06481 091302Z

ONLY GIVES MORE TIME TO ISRAEL TO RETAIN ITS OCCUPATION...
WHAT WE DEMAND OF EGYPT NOW IS TO GIVE THE ARAB MASSES AN
INTERPRETATION AND EXPLANATION FOR THE REAL REASONS WHICH
MOTIVATED IT TO WASTE MORE TIME AT CAMP DAVID".

3. ENGLISH LANGUAGE JORDAN TIMES, NOTING BEGIN STATEMENT
THAT SECRETARY VANCE HAD NOT ASKED FOR A CHANGE IN THE

ISRAELI POSITION, STATES IF TRUE IT IS "DIFFICULT TO SEE WHAT CAN COME OUT OF AMERICAN EFFORTS TO SALVAGE THE INITIATIVE OF PRESIDENT SADAT". "THE ABILITY OF MENACHEN BEGIN TO ASSERT HIS POWER...SILENCING ALL OPPOSITION VOICES...IS THE REAL CHALLENGE THE AMERICANS NEED TO FACE UP TO. THERE ARE STILL NO PUBLIC SIGNS THAT THEY HAVE APPRECIATED THIS, LET ALONE DECIDED TO ACT ON IT...THIS TENDS TO MAKE MORE AND MORE PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT PEACE WILL NOT COME THROUGH THE MEDIATION OF THE U.S."

4. THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL GOJ COMMENT, ALTHOUGH RADIO AMMAN AUG 9 STATED THAT IT IS EXTRAORDINARY THAT SUMMIT HAS BEEN AGREED TO WITH NO ANNOUNCED SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE IN POSITIONS OF ANY OF THE PARTIES.

5. KING HUSSEIN HAS DEPARTED FOR AQABA UNTIL MORNING AUG 12. CHARGE HAS APPOINTMENT WITH PALACE CHIEF SHARAF MORNING AUG 10, WHEN WE MAY GET PRELIMINARY GOJ REACTION. SUDDARTH

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NNN

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